



development professional services information services global professional development

# ASIA AND OCEANIA

ISSUE 22:2 DECEMBER 2010

SECTION NEWSLETTER



**Dr. Dan Dorner**  
**Chair**  
**IFLA Regional Standing**  
**Committee for Asia**  
**and Oceania**

## Message from RSCAO Chair



DEAR FRIENDS,

I hope you are in good health and have been enjoying success in all your endeavours. I am writing this message to you with two aims in mind – to update you on the main activities of our regional committee at the IFLA conference in Gothenburg, and to raise awareness about the need for your input into our educational programmes for librarians and other information professionals.

Several months have passed since the IFLA conference in Gothenburg. The conference was packed with interesting meetings and activities, two of which stand out in my memory as being particularly successful for the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO). The first one was the Asia and Oceania conference session which featured five high quality and very diverse papers on social networking in libraries and other information organisations in Asia and Oceania. One of these papers has been selected for possible



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publication in the IFLA Journal – “Sowing the seeds: towards reaping a harvest using social web applications in Nanyang Technological University Library” by Nurhazman Abdul Aziz, Chia Yew Boon, and Hazel Loh.

The second successful activity that stands out in my memory spans across the two meetings of the RSCAO during the conference. At these meetings, the members worked especially hard and developed a new strategic plan which aligns the content of the RSCAO Strategic Plan with the IFLA Strategic Plan 2010-2015. Examples of this alignment include the RSCAO plan to support and promote ALP programmes in our region especially the Building Strong Library Associations Programme; and RSCAO efforts to support IFLA in membership recruitment through regional RSCAO sub-units which will also serve as an effective communication network. I believe the hard work of the RSCAO members is evident in the strength of our strategic plan which will not only support libraries within our region, but will also support IFLA as a world wide association.

In the second part of this message I will focus on the importance of your involvement in educational programmes for our profession. As Chair of the RSCAO I have the honour and pleasure to work cooperatively with librarians and library educators from a hugely diverse range of countries. As an educator myself, I come into contact with master's and doctoral students from New Zealand as well as from many other nations. I have learned from my various roles that education is the cornerstone of our profession.

Without staff who have a solid educational foundation, our libraries will struggle to provide the resources and services required by our various client groups and which will help our countries achieve their economic, social and political goals. To ensure the educational programmes in Library and Information Studies keep pace with the rapidly evolving world around us we need to keep asking a very basic question: what content should our educators be teaching our students as they are preparing to enter the profession?

A good starting point for answering this question is the publication entitled “Guidelines for Professional Library/Information Educational Programs” which is available from the Education and Training Section area of the IFLA website (<http://www.ifla.org/en/set>). Item 8 in the Guidelines is a list of eight core elements that identify generic areas of content to be included in educational programmes. An excellent piece of advice is found in Item 7: “Programmes should refer to educational policy statements issued by government or professional associations that identify important knowledge and skill components.” It then lists institutions such as the U.K.'s Chartered Institute of Library & Information Professionals (CILIP) and the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) as examples.

A national project to investigate potential changes to library and information science (LIS) education is currently underway in Australia. Educators from eleven LIS educational programmes are conducting a major research project entitled “Re-conceptualising and re-positioning Australian library and information science education for the twenty-first century.” The project is aimed at examining the current educational environment and establishing a framework “on how best to re-position and re-shape Australian LIS education to ensure it remains dynamic, sustainable and responsive to the evolving information age and produces graduates with the necessary attributes for professional practice in the rapidly changing twenty-first century” (Discussion paper 1, p. 4). Information about the project can be found at: <http://www.liseducation.org.au/>

My own school has recently transformed its master's qualification from a Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS) to a Master of Information Studies (MIS) degree. The core content of the new programme is based on competencies identified by IFLA, CILIP, the Library and Information Association of New Zealand (LIANZA) as well as professional bodies in archives and records management such as the Records Management Association of Australasia (RMAA). The change was driven by the demand for graduates who understand the core concepts of librarianship, archives and records management, knowledge management and so forth, and who will then have the required competencies for positions in a wide variety of roles in both public and private sector organisations. Students are allowed to choose a particular emphasis in their programmes, and if they wish they can graduate with a “LIBS” or “ARCR” endorsement which is added to their MIS qualification. Details can be found at: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/sim/study/mis/>

Though I cannot speak knowledgeably about the content of all educational programmes in our region, I can say that the educators whom I have met are passionate about their work and their students, and they are extremely proud of their programmes. Nonetheless, it is important for members of our professional community to discuss with their local educators the competencies required by new graduates. Your voices are needed to ensure that the content of our educational programmes meets our needs for 21st Century library and information professionals.

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**Tan Keat Fong**  
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## DEAR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS,

Happy New Year and best wishes for 2011!

This issue covers a myriad of news and good tidings from the region. Congratulations to our Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO) colleagues, Dan, Premila, Shawky, Michael, and Diljit. RSCAO is very proud of your achievements and thank you for your stellar contribution to the library development in this region! Read more about their awards and appointments on pages 14–17. Sanjay, RSCAO member was recently selected and posted to the High Commission of India in London as Attache (Press & Information/ Library). He is the officer in charge of the India House Library of the High Commission which is more than eighty years old.

Ms. Jennefer Nicholson, IFLA Secretary General was in Singapore to attend “When Nations Remember” an inaugural two-day conference organised by National Library Board (NLB) Singapore and supported by IFLA. This conference was held to celebrate the launch of the Singapore Memory project, designed for the sharing and discussion of memory-building initiatives from international and community perspectives. Jennefer represented IFLA and was invited to deliver the opening address at

the conference dinner, sharing with delegates IFLA's involvement in memory initiatives around the world. She also combined this conference with an extended visit to Mrs. Phoon Chew Ping, NLB's Chief Executive and the Singapore Regional Office.

This issue also features Dan, RSCAO Chair's highlight of RSCAO activities during the recent IFLA Annual Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden in August 2010. We have had a hectic but extremely fruitful time at the Conference. Read more about RSCAO activities on pages 12 and 13. Along with this issue, members will also receive IFLA membership flyers. Please distribute these to interested individuals or institutions in your region. Please direct any potential members to Petrina and me at the Regional Office for us to assist them. I am also happy to announce that our current membership stands at 323 members and 57 member countries as at 30 November 2010. This is an increase of 29 members and 3 member countries. We hope that it will continue to grow with our combined efforts.



*Jennefer with Mrs. Phoon Chew Ping,  
NLB Chief Executive*

In our efforts to increase IFLA outreach in our region, we would be very happy to mail IFLA collaterals for distribution at upcoming regional or international events in Asia and Oceania. Please contact Petrina or myself for the arrangement should there be any upcoming events in your country or region. Our contact details can be found on page 11.

You may also have received broadcast of RSCAO Call for Paper for IFLA WLIC 2011 in Puerto Rico. The topic is “**Moving into the future - a new**

**vision for libraries in Asia and Oceania.**” More details are available at <http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77/calls-for-papers/moving-into-the-future-new-vision-for-libraries-in-asia-and-oceania>. The closing date for abstract submission has been extended to 4 February 2011. We look forward to your submissions.

With the closure of a very productive 2010, we hope that 2011 will be another excellent year for the library professional in this region.



**Petrina Ang**  
IFLA Regional Office for Asia and Oceania

## DEAR FRIENDS,

As I sit down in front of the computer all ready to bang out something, I am surprised by how much I would like to share in my short two-year stint in the library environment, not to mention the limited editorial space I have!

The recent IFLA Conference in Gothenburg, a small but quaint little city, has been very fruitful for me. Just like the one in Milan, I enjoy the buzz from the mind-boggling

array of topics, concurrent sessions, and meetings. Amidst the buzz and hectic shuffling from one meeting venue to another, the precious catch-ups with colleagues and friends that were managed in between the sessions are something I especially cherish.

In 2009 when I joined the library and had my first contact with IFLA, I had no idea what (fun) I was in for. In 2010, two years later, I'm inspired. To a newbie like me, the seniors and mentors have been exceptionally generous in sharing their knowledge and experience, as my peers have been encouraging. For this, I am extremely grateful. In return, I hope to reciprocate by playing my part (such as the production of this newsletter), however small, in contributing to the library community.

To our readers, thank you for your generous compliments on our revamped June 2010 issue. We are heartened and hope you'll enjoy this issue as much as the previous one. As we herald in the new year – yet another dimension of space and time to shape and create, I hope to be the best I can be, just as I'm sure we will be the best we can be!

# IFLA HQ NEWS

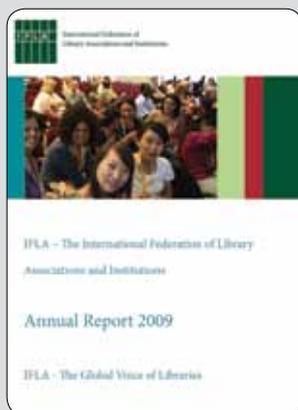
Compiled by Ms. Petrina Ang

Associate II

IFLA Regional Office for Asia and Oceania

Source: IFLA Website (<http://www.ifla.org/>)

## NEW IFLA PUBLICATIONS



### 2009 IFLA Annual Report

Available for download at <http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/annual-reports/2009.pdf>

2009 has been a fruitful and busy year for IFLA. It has been a year in which IFLA showed its resilience in enduring the impact of the Global Financial Crisis, and in which IFLA strengthened its position as the trusted global voice of libraries and

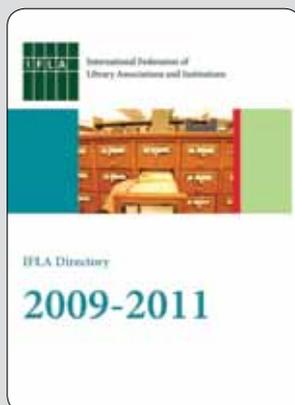
the library and information services sector.

Through good spirit, careful planning and the loyalty of our members IFLA has sustained its membership numbers, its programme of core and other activities, and maintained its Headquarters in the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague. Our 2009 World Library and Information Congress in Milan in August was again a highlight of IFLA's activities, and the first with our new professional structure and General Assembly.

### IFLA Directory 2009–2011

Available for download at <http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/membership/ifla-directory-2009-2011.pdf> (165 pages – 4.71 MB)

The IFLA Directory 2009–2011 is a guide to the organisational structure of IFLA. It contains in one place a listing of the names and contact details of the members of the Governing Board and its committees and the steering bodies of all the professional units. It lists contact details for the staff of all the IFLA Offices around the world, as well as information about the IFLA website, our various publications series, and the IFLA Voucher scheme. As in previous editions of the Directory, the period covered in this edition coincides with the terms of office for Governing Board Members and Standing Committee Officers. We have included the latest revised versions of the Statutes adopted by Council in 2008 and the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Governing Board in 2008.



IFLA is very grateful for NBD/Biblion, Leidschendam, Netherlands for the sponsoring and production of this edition of the IFLA Directory.

IFLA Members receive the IFLA Directory as part of the membership benefit package. The IFLA Directory is also for sale for non-members. IFLA HQ hopes that the IFLA Directory 2009–2011 proves to be a valuable tool in your professional work. We welcome corrections, as well as constructive comments and suggestions for the further improvement of the Directory, which can be sent to us at [ifla@ifla.org](mailto:ifla@ifla.org). All comments will be carefully considered when we plan the next edition.

## NEW AND IMPROVED WEBSITES FOR THE WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS (WLIC) AND IFLA WLIC 2011 CALL FOR PAPERS

IFLA has launched new websites for its World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) and IFLA WLIC 2011 Call for Papers. Keeping the websites separate from the main IFLA website allows more flexibility with the layout, as the information that is offered has different requirements and output formats. Please visit the two new URLs (<http://conference.ifla.org>) below to see the improvements.

IFLA WLIC 2011 Puerto Rico:

<http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77>

IFLA WLIC 2011 Call for Papers:

<http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77/calls-for-papers>



DE GRUYTER SAUR/  
IFLA RESEARCH PAPER  
AWARD 2011

Sven Fund, Managing Director of De Gruyter Saur and Jennefer Nicholson, IFLA Secretary General invite submissions of papers for the De Gruyter Saur/ IFLA Research Paper Award 2011. This is an annual award for the best research paper on a topic of importance to publishing and access to information. This year's topic is "Use and Users of Digital Libraries" with subthemes:

- access to digital information;
- user behaviour in digital libraries;
- improving interactivity in digital libraries using web 2.0 technologies; and
- reaching out to the wider community through digital libraries.



Left to right: Helena Asamoah-Hassan, IFLA President, Ellen Tise, IFLA ALP Programme Coordinator, Fiona Bradley, and Barbara Schleihagen at the official soft launch of the IFLA Online

## OFFICIAL SOFT LAUNCH OF IFLA ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM

The Online Learning Platform is a new section of the IFLA website that makes available learning materials for the Building Strong Library Associations programme in a dedicated learning environment.

Two Governing Board members who were also members of the expert group that developed the Building Strong Library Associations programme, Helena Asamoah-Hassan and Barbara Schleihagen, participated in the soft launch.

More information about the Building Strong Library Associations programme (<http://www.ifla.org/en/bsla/>) and the Online Learning platform (<http://www.ifla.org/en/bsla/learning-platform>) is available. All members are now invited to register and participate in using the site. Read more about ALP programmes on pages 18 and 19 in this issue.

The award is aimed at encouraging research and publication by those relatively new to the profession. Those with no more than eight years of professional experience in library and information services are eligible.

### The award is an amount of EUR 1,000

The selected paper must have been written no earlier than January 2010 and not yet to have been published. The paper's maximum length should be approximately 5,000 words and should be submitted in English. The selection panel for the award comprises two IFLA members and the IFLA Professional Programmes Director. All applicants will be required to give De Gruyter Saur the right to publish their submitted paper.

Both IFLA and De Gruyter Saur will announce and further publicise the award via their websites, relevant mailing lists, journals and newsletters, press conferences, news releases etc. The recipient of the award will be announced at the IFLA President's Lunch during the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Puerto Rico, August 2011. If the recipient is attending this Congress, he will also be invited to the President's Lunch. Papers, accompanied by the completed application form, must be submitted by 31 March 2011. Incomplete application forms will not be considered and the decisions of the jury are final.

Please download the application form at:

- <http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/news/documents/degruyter-ifla-award-2011.doc> (word doc)
- <http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/news/documents/degruyter-ifla-award-2011.pdf> (PDF doc)



IFLA President, Ellen Tise pushes the button to launch the site, with congratulations from Governing Board colleagues and IFLA Web & IT Manager, Simon Lemstra.





# BENEFITS OF IFLA MEMBERSHIP



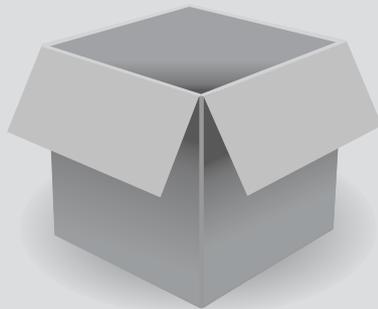
## WHY JOIN IFLA?

### Because you can:

- define your profession
- decide what's on the agenda, globally
- make a definite difference
- keep up-to-date
- help others & help yourself (reciprocal benefit)
- network and collaborate

### Advantages of being an IFLA member:

- Extend and sustain your professional network at an international level
- Think strategically: decide what will be on the political agenda by using your voting rights
- Be active in one of IFLA's working groups and help developing standards and guidelines; take part in meetings, seminars and workshops, discuss important issues with your colleagues from all over the world and exchange information on the topics you work on
- Get a discount on IFLA's annual conference and on various IFLA publications
- Receive the bi-annual IFLA Directory for free
- Receive a copy of IFLA's Annual Report for free
- Get a subscription on IFLA Journal for free
- Receive the newsletters of the Sections to which you are registered for free
- Receive an IFLA window sticker and promote IFLA
- As an IFLA member, you are not required to pay the 10% non-member surcharge on IFLA ILL vouchers



## QUESTIONS

Please refer to <http://www.ifla.org/en/membership> or contact the IFLA membership team:

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- Take advantage of the special discount on membership if you join before the end of 2010

For more information or to join please contact Holly Shukla (ASLIB Relationship Manager): 01274 785248; [hshukla@aslib.com](mailto:hshukla@aslib.com)

# aslib

MANAGING INFORMATION

## the association for information management

ASLIB is a membership association for people who manage information and knowledge in organisations. We provide training, advice and networking for members, with a key focus on data protection, intellectual property and information governance.

Join the hundreds of organisations around the world which benefit from a range of high quality and relevant services, provided by a leading global, corporate information management association.

The ASLIB Member benefits include:

- Access to two subscriptions of your choice to international leading ASLIB/Emerald journals in print and electronic format
- Print and online access to the award-winning magazine *Managing Information*, published ten times a year
- Online access to 550+ summary articles, 330+ interviews, 1,000+ case studies and 42 management briefing article collections through the Online Business and Management Library (Emerald Management First)
- Opportunities to network with ASLIB members through special interest groups
- Discounts on ASLIB training courses, books and journals.

# aslib

MANAGING INFORMATION

[www.aslib.com](http://www.aslib.com)





Speakers, guests, and council members of HKLA in a joint conference organised by HKLA and Goethe-Institut Hongkong in 2010. More details are available at <http://jointconf.hkla.org/>

## HONG KONG LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

### Ms. Becky Lee

Newsletter Editor, Hong Kong Library Association  
Assistant Librarian, HKIED Research Repository,  
Hong Kong Institute of Education Library

The Hong Kong Library Association (HKLA) was first founded in 1958, with Mrs. Dorothea Scott, the Librarian of the University of Hong Kong, elected as the first President. The Association was established with a view to uniting the practitioners in different libraries and information institutions, planning and promoting the development of the library profession, and enhancing the professional status of the library practitioners in Hong Kong. As a matter of fact, the founding of the Association had laid a milestone on the development of library and information profession in Hong Kong.

The objectives of HKLA are:

- To encourage the development of policies promoting the provision of information and library services in Hong Kong. This shall include the provision of guidelines and standards for such services.
- To provide for librarianship and information work, a focal point as well as a network of formal and informal communication within Hong Kong and with China and other countries.
- To unite and promote the interests of all persons engaged in library and information work in Hong Kong, and to ensure the effective representation of the interests of members.
- To encourage professional education and training for librarianship and information work in Hong Kong.

Over the past fifty-two years, through the enthusiasm and efforts of a group of voluntary library practitioners, HKLA has greatly helped to enhance the development of local library and information profession, raise the professional status of library practitioners, and unite their interests through a variety of academic activities, publications, professional courses, scholarships, and awards, etc.

To know more about the Association, please visit its bilingual website at <http://www.hkla.org/>



HKLA members in front of Shaanxi Library in the HKLA Study Trip to Xi'an in 2010. More details are available at <http://hkla.org/newsletter/sup2010.pdf>

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# IFLA REGIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA AND OCEANIA (RSCAO) ACTIVITIES IN GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN, AUGUST 2010

**Dr. Chihfeng P. Lin**

Associate Professor, Department/ Graduate Program of Information and Communications, Shih-Hsin University  
Secretary, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania

## RSCAO STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS, AUGUST 11 & 14, 2010

RSCAO held two Standing Committee meetings at the World Library and Information Congress: 76th IFLA General Conference and Assembly in Gothenburg, Sweden on August 11 and August 14, 2010. Both were well attended and productive with paramount issues discussed. The meetings were attended by the following RSCAO members along with observers from various countries:

Dan Dorner (Chair), Chihfeng Lin (Secretary), Tan Keat Fong (Regional Manager), Hilda Nassar (Information Coordinator), Fiona Bradley (ALP Programme Coordinator), Michael Robinson (Member), Sanjay Bihani (Member), Tendik Yermekpayeva (Member), Premila Gamage (Member), Winston Roberts (Member), Fawz Abdallah (Member), Bughdana Hajjar (Member), Hasna Askhita (Member), Shawky Salem (Member), Mihyang Park (Member), and Petrina Ang (Regional Office).

Dan Dorner, Chair, shared IFLA Strategic Plan 2010–2011 and Implementation Planning IFLA Professional Units 2010–2011. Members worked to develop the RSCAO Strategic Plan 2010–2011 which aligns with the broader IFLA Strategic Plan. One of RSCAO plans is to encourage participation in IFLA through the increase of membership in the region. To ensure effective membership recruitment, six RSCAO regional sub-units, each headed by a RSCAO member, were created. The six regions are West Asia, North West Asia, South Asia, East Asia, South East Asia, and Oceania. Apart from actively engaging members and non-members within their proxies, the sub-units will also serve as communication networks as part of RSCAO outreach to this region. The current communication channels such as the RSCAO-L mailing list and the bi-annual IFLA Asia and Oceania Section will also be utilised to encourage increased participation in IFLA through the promotion and publicity of IFLA activities, news, and developments. Hilda Nassar, Information Coordinator, had also in this meeting, reported a zero bounced email rate with a current 271 subscribers on RSCAO-L.

Another major thrust of RSCAO plan is to build the capacities of libraries and library associations in the Asia and Oceania region through the support and promotion

of ALP Programmes, mainly the Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) Programme, ALP's centerpiece and ALP Projects. With this, the goal is to create opportunities for regionally based education and training through partnership in library and information management skills, with emphasis on information literacy, the development of library associations and library association advocacy.

Tan Keat Fong, Regional Manager, in her report on the progress and activities of the Regional Office highlighted that as at May 31, 2010, IFLA membership for Asia and Oceania Section stands at 294 members and 54 member countries. The IFLA Asia and Oceania Section Newsletter, with its revamped look, has the aim of generating increased readership within Asia and Oceania and beyond. As decided by members during RSCAO Mid-term Meeting 2010 in Beirut, Lebanon, Hong Kong will be the host country of RSCAO Mid-term Meeting, February 21–22, 2011. Michael Robinson, organiser, presented a report on the planning of the meeting, including a proposed itinerary. Fiona Bradley, ALP Programme Coordinator, provided an update on the progress of the BSLA Programme. The successful countries were subsequently announced at a session in Gothenburg. From Asia and Oceania, Lebanon was selected. RSCAO's Programme in IFLA WLIC 2011 in Puerto Rico, August 13–18, 2011 was discussed with further online discussion on the theme of the session and the subsequent Call for Papers.



RSCAO Members at the first Standing Committee Meeting on August 11

## ASIA AND OCEANIA OPEN SESSION: SOCIAL NETWORKING IN LIBRARIES AND OTHER INFORMATION ORGANISATIONS IN ASIA AND OCEANIA, AUGUST 15, 2010

RSCAO's Open Session attracted an excellent audience of more than 120. The Keynote Speaker was Dr. Samuel Kai-wah Chu from The University of Hong Kong. His presentation on "Applications of Social Networking Tools in Libraries" was insightful and well received. Following which, the audience was treated to the presentation of four quality papers from Asia and Oceania. The paper by Nanyang Technological University Library has been selected for possible publication in the IFLA Journal. The four papers are as follows:

- Strategy development in learning through on-line social networks  
Lih-Juan ChanLin, (Taipei, Taiwan, China)
- Sowing the seeds: towards reaping a harvest using social web applications in Nanyang Technological University Library  
Nurhazman Abdul Aziz, Chia Yew Boon, and Hazel Loh (Singapore)
- Changing role of librarians in the digital world: adoption of Web 2.0 Technologies in Pakistani libraries  
Muhammad Arif and Khalid Mahmood (Pakistan)
- Value of social networking in libraries and information organizations in Asia and Oceania  
S.A.D.H. Namali Suraweera (Sri Lanka), Norhayati Razali (Malaysia), Lal Bahadur Chouhan (Nepal), Neela Tamang (Nepal), Ana Mae Kristine U. Hubilla (The Philippines), A.R.M. Mano Ratnayake (Sri Lanka), Nicholas C. Rubosa (Solomon Islands), Fairunizan Akbar Malik (Malaysia), and Shah Nawaz Mahesar (Pakistan)



RSCAO Chair with Keynote Speaker and Presenters of Asia and Oceania Open Session on August 15

From left to right: Lih-Juan ChanLin, Dan Dorner, Muhammad Arif, Nurhazman Abdul Aziz, S.A.D.H. Namali Suraweera, Samuel Kai-wah Chu

## SOCIAL AND NETWORKING SESSIONS

RSCAO members also had the opportunity to catch up over a get-together dinner organised by Regional Office after the first Standing Committee meeting on August 11. We are also very grateful to Emerald, which has always been very generous to the Asia and Oceania Section, for hosting a dinner for Division V members at the IFLA Conference on August 13, 2011.



RSCAO get-together dinner on August 11

# *Accolades*

Congratulations to the following RSCAO members for their outstanding contribution and dedication to the library and information profession!

**DR. DANIEL GEORGE DORNER**  
AWARDED LIANZA FELLOWSHIP



Dr. Dan Dorner has lectured in the Library and Information Studies programme at Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) since 1996, and in this time he has taught hundreds of students in the MLIS programme. He has supervised a significant number of research projects, and has had a productive research programme of his own.

His teaching covers key professional issues via the core foundation paper Information and Society, as well as the advanced cataloguing course, Bibliographic Organisation, and the Masters of Information Management paper, Information Policy. In his thorough and well regarded teaching Dan has contributed in a major way to developing and growing the expertise of professional librarians in New Zealand.

Dan's supervision of research projects has helped advance knowledge within the profession, and students have appreciated his insightful and supportive supervision. A number of students have been assisted to publish papers in international journals.

Dan's own research interests include digital preservation and information literacy. In addition to publication in international journals, his outputs include international conference presentations and reports commissioned by the National Library. Dan chairs the School's Human Ethics Committee, which approves all ethics

applications in the school, including most MLIS research projects.

Dan's contribution to the School of Information Management include his pivotal role in the School's membership of the Web-based Information Science Education (WISE) consortium. This has enabled NZ students to participate in courses from other overseas member institutions, and vice versa. A notable example of the latter is the Developing Leadership Potential course offered in 2009, which was developed in partnership with LIANZA and delivered by Dan in conjunction with leaders from within the library profession.

Dan chairs the IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania, and he has led a programme of annual workshops at VUW for Asian and Pacific librarians. This has provided them with professional development opportunities including in-depth study and library visits. These contributions have fostered New Zealand's professional leadership in the region as well as improving management of information and library services.

Dan is awarded the LIANZA Fellowship for the excellence of his teaching of the future library leaders of New Zealand, for his research, and for his involvement in professional activities in the Asia and Oceania region.



**MS. PREMILA GAMAGE**  
AWARDED HONORARY FELLOWSHIP  
OF CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF LIBRARY  
AND INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS  
(CILIP) 2010



*Premila receiving the award from Libby Fisher, President of CILIP*

Ms. Premila Gamage was awarded the Honorary Fellowship of Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) 2010, for her efforts to bring library and information services to youth in remote regions of the Island and her deep commitment to fostering education. For the first time in the history, a Sri Lankan librarian was awarded an honorary fellowship of the CILIP (UK).

Premila has supported the development of high quality library and information services, particularly to those with the most limited resources and greatest need. Her work is recognised internationally, as can be seen by her supporters spanning the globe. Throughout her career she has shown determination and commitment to supporting the development of high quality library and information services, particularly to those with the most limited resources and greatest need.

Been an active and keen worker for IFLA, Premila was the first Sri Lankan to hold high office in IFLA. Having served as Secretary, then Chair of Asia and Oceania Section, she was also elected to the IFLA Governing Board. In addition, she was also Chair of Division for Africa, Asia and Oceania, and Latin America and Caribbean. Premila is currently a member of Asia and Oceania Section.

Premila is an exemplary ambassador for the Sri Lankan library and information profession. Nationally, within Sri Lanka, Premila has been a stalwart of the library and information profession for many years. She has held many posts within the Sri Lankan Library Association dedicating many hours to each role. Latterly

she co-ordinated the numerous internationally funded tsunami affected library projects with dogged determination and selflessness, much of the work unpaid and unseen by others.

Premila has had a wide and varied career, most recently as the Librarian for the prestigious Institute of Policy Studies in Colombo. During her career she has endeavoured to achieve high levels of personal continuous professional development. She is currently working towards a PhD “Does the 1000 Tele centre Project of the E-Sri Lanka Programme Bridge the Digital Divide?”

**DR. SHAWKY SALEM**  
AWARDED JASON FARRADANE  
AWARD 2010 (UKEIG – CILIP)



*Shawky (extreme right) with Martin White, Chair of UKeiG Jury Committee and Annie Mauger Executive Director of CILIP*

Dr. Shawky Salem was presented the UKeiG Jason Farradane Award at the CILIP stand in the exhibition area of Online Information 2010 by UKeiG Chair, Martin White. The UKeiG Jason Farradane Award is one of UkeiG's most prestigious awards. Shawky is currently an active member of IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO).

The Award is given in recognition of Shawky's outstanding contribution to the information profession.

Shawky was born in Egypt and has Egyptian & Canadian nationality. He holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in LIS (Information Technology). He is an Honorary Fellow of CILIP, UK and a Member of IFLA; ASIST; ALA; CLA and IITR. He was awarded the IFLA Honor Medal at the 75th IFLA Conference in Milan, Italy from August 23–27, 2009.

His career included many posts with regional and international work. He is currently Chairman of Alex Centre for Multimedia & Libraries (ACML-Egypt); Professor (Information Technology) in LIS Dep., Faculty of Arts, Alexandria University 1994–2000; Supervisor at The Central Scientific Library of the University 1996–2000; Creator and Head Of Knowledge Management & Informatics (KMI) Dep. at Beirut Arab University (BAU) 2003–08.

He is on the Editorial Board of a number of international journals including “Journal of Information Science” (JIS) England; “Microcomputers for Information Management” (MIM)–USA; “Library and Information Science Abstracts” (LISA)–England; “International Forum of Information and Documentation” (IFID)–Holland; and “The Electronic Library” (TEL) Emerald, UK.

His international career has included many jobs and projects, with milestones being Member of the Council of International Federation for Information & Documentation (FID), 1992–2001; President of the Regional Organization for North Africa and Near East (FID/ NANE), 1992–2001; Organiser of the Third World Countries Caucus (TWCC–IFLA), 1994–; Chairman and Special Advisor of the IFLA Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (IFLA/RSCAO), 1988–91 & 1994–; Member and Corresponding member of IFLA Standing Committee for Biological and Medical Libraries, 1995–2001; Member and Corresponding member of IFLA–International Committee on Freedom Access to information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE), 1997–2011; Member of IFLA Governing Board, 2003–07; Member of the Board of the Arab Union Catalog (AUC) – similar to OCLC, May 2008–; and responsibilities of AUC Strategies, Policies, and Plans.

He is the founder of a permanent international yearly grant in his name, the Dr. Shawky Salem Conference Grant (<http://www.ifla.org/funds-grants-awards/SSCG>). He is also the founder of Local Prize in Egypt with Academy of Scientific Research and Technology under the name “Grant for Knowledge Management and Informatics (KMI)” – a yearly permanent grant within the Academy awards.

**MR. MICHAEL ROBINSON**  
AWARDED HONG KONG LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION FELLOWSHIP



*Michael receiving the award from Jim Chang,  
President of HKLA*

Mr. Michael Robinson, Librarian at the Hong Kong Institute of Education was awarded a Fellowship of the Hong Kong Library Association (HKLA) at their Annual General Meeting on December 9, 2010. Fellows of the Hong Kong Library Association are senior members of the Association who are recognised by its Council to have made major contributions to both the library profession in Hong Kong and to the Association.

Michael was presented with the Fellowship together with Ms. Patti Cheung Po Chun, a staff member of Chinese University of Hong Kong Libraries and also a former member of HKLA Council. In addition, Dr. Tony Ferguson, the retiring University Librarian of the Hong Kong University Libraries was presented with an Honorary Fellowship for his long and outstanding contribution to librarianship in Hong Kong.

Heading the Institute Library since 2005, Michael has played an active role in the librarianship profession in Hong Kong since that time. As the President of the Hong Kong Library Association in 2007 and 2008, he led a number of activities and events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Association, culminating in an international conference in November 2008.

He also holds a concurrent appointment as the founding Director of The Hong Kong Museum of Education, and has led the development of the Museum as well as a range of cultural and educational heritage projects on behalf of The Hong Kong Institute of Education. He has also been contributing significantly

to library development in the Asia and Oceania region through his active participation as member of IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania since 2007.

**DR. DILJIT SINGH**  
ELECTED PRESIDENT OF IASL



Dr. Diljit Singh, from University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia, was elected President of the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) as the Annual General Meeting in conjunction with the association's 39th Annual Conference held in Brisbane, Australia from September 27 to October 1, 2010. Diljit is also currently Member of IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania.

IASL is a voluntary professional association, whose mission is the establishment and development of school librarianship throughout the world. It includes members in nearly eighty countries in North America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, the Pacific Islands, Central America, the Caribbean, and South America who work as school librarians, media specialists, academics, teachers, school principals, and consultants. Currently headquartered in Brisbane, Australia, IASL serves as an international forum for people interested in promoting effective school library programmes as viable instruments in the educational process.

Diljit has been a member of IASL since 1989, and has previously held positions of Director (Asia), and Vice-President of the association. At the conference, he shared his vision for his term of Presidency, that of "Children Better Prepared for Tomorrow," with the members of association. This direction was well received by the membership and many have indicated their support.

# ALP NEWS

**Ms. Fiona Bradley**  
ALP Programme Coordinator  
IFLA Headquarters



*Dr. Fawz Abdallah, President, Lebanese Library Association*

## START OF THE BUILDING STRONG LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS PROGRAMME

The Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) Programme will begin in Lebanon in January 2011 with a workshop bringing together members of the Lebanese Library Association (LLA) board and selected stakeholders. They will work with their core trainer, former Asia and Oceania Section Chair, Premila Gamage from Sri Lanka. Further workshops will be held in 2011 aimed at strengthening LLA and its partnerships in Lebanon.

The call for applications for 2011 is now open. Interested associations from the Asia and Oceania region are asked to review the guidelines and contact ALP or the Asia and Oceania Section Standing Committee for more information about the programme. More information about the BSLA programme is available on the IFLA website at: <http://www.ifla.org/alp/project-applications/>

## IFLA ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM

IFLA is pleased to announce the launch of its Online Learning Platform, a new section of its website that makes available its learning materials in a dedicated learning environment. The site is accessible from: <http://www.ifla.org/bsla/learning-platform/>

Powered by the open source learning platform, Moodle, the website allows IFLA members to:

- download high-quality training materials and case studies,
- participate in online learning activities and discussions, and
- contribute their stories of how they have used the programme.

Combined with the availability of this content through the new online learning platform, this will be a significant, new resource for all of IFLA's members.

Beginning in November 2010, IFLA will make available a growing number of downloadable resources and interactive learning activities.

The materials may be used in a variety of ways:

- for use within your association, for example, at a board meeting or seminar,
- to run an independent workshop,
- as part of an IFLA funded project, for example BSLA country projects, or ALP small projects, and
- for your own learning.

Each module contains a series of topics, learning objectives, case studies, and opportunities for self-assessment.

Library associations can also request delivery of learning materials via removable media (for example, USB stick) for those with limited access to the Internet. Please contact IFLA Headquarters for more information.



*One of the meetings in Beirut, Lebanon*

## ALP UPDATE

ALP Projects in the Asia and Oceania region that commenced in 2010:

- Occupied Palestinian Territories: Training in Library skills for Palestinian schools librarians in activating the role of these schools libraries: Training of trainers second round
- Kazakhstan: The creation of the strong library associations. The development of the library associations. The development of the cadre potential
- Samoa: Building capacity for in-country training for small library associations in the South Pacific

ALP supports projects in its focal areas of library associations, literacy, libraries in society access to information, and emerging professional practices that may be:

- one-off workshops and training activities, delivering existing IFLA's policy-based training materials (for example, training materials developed by FAIFE),
- workshops and training where new training packages and content based on ALP focal areas will be delivered and made available to IFLA, and
- longer-term capacity building activities and training designed to support the development of the sector in a country, for example through the BSLA programme.

More information about ALP can be found at the IFLA website: <http://www.ifla.org/alp>

## CONTACTING ALP

ALP is based at IFLA Headquarters and can be contacted by email at [alp@ifla.org](mailto:alp@ifla.org)



# THE ASIAN SEMINAR ON PRESERVATION AND THE FOUR ELEMENTS:

## AIR, WATER, EARTH AND FIRE SUCCESSFULLY HELD AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF CHINA

### Mr. Yan Xiangdong

Director, Division of International (Hong Kong Macao Taiwan) Cooperation, National Library of China  
Member, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania

The Asian Seminar on Preservation and the Four Elements: Air, Water, Earth and Fire was held from June 21–24, 2010 in Beijing. This seminar was sponsored by the National Library of China (NLC), China National Center for Preservation & Conservation of Ancient Books, and the IFLA-PAC China Center. IFLA-PAC Regional Centre-Asia, IFLA-PAC Korea Center, and some document collection institutions in China participated in the seminar.

Noriko Nakamura, Director of IFLA-PAC Regional Centre-Asia, Zhang Zhiqing, NLC Deputy Director and Director of IFLA-PAC China Center, and Park So Yeon, restoration expert from National Library of Korea delivered opening remarks respectively. In addition, representatives from National Diet Library, Tokyo National Museum, and National Museum of Korea presented keynote reports at the seminar. In addition, experts from the Center for Chinese Studies, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Hong Kong University Libraries, Macau Central Library, Hong Kong Museum of History, and experts from public libraries, university libraries, archives, museums, and professional research institutions in China attended the seminar. The opening ceremony of the seminar was hosted by Chen Hongyan, Deputy Director of IFLA-PAC China Center and Director of China National Center for Preservation & Conservation of Ancient Books. Zhang Zhiqing made a summary speech for the seminar.

In the seminar, experts reviewed the work of IFLA-PAC China Center, Japan Center, and Korea Center, and also discussed how to prevent and deploy document preservation and conservation efficiently, so as to minimise the damages of natural disasters on literature.

The seminar was held as China is paying more attention to traditional culture preservation. Jointly sponsored by the China National Center for Preservation & Conservation of Ancient Books and IFLA-PAC China Center, the seminar aimed at further promoting the international cooperation on the preservation, conservation and restoration of ancient books preservation, and strengthening the exchange between the Chinese library community and international library community, especially communication with libraries in East Asian region on book preservation and conservation.

About sixty experts from home and abroad attended the conference, and most of them were literature preservation and research professionals from China, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan.



In recent years, global climate anomalies, global warming, and environmental pollution had caused great damages on literature, so disaster prevention and rescue on damaged literature after disasters attracted great attention of literature collection institutions.

In 2009, IFLA-PAC held the Seminar on Preservation and the Four Elements: Air, Earth, Water and Fire in France. Some papers submitted to the seminar were published in the 49th issue of "International Preservation News" in December 2009, which was sponsored by IFLA-PAC. The Director of IFLA-PAC hoped that Asia could hold similar seminars, so as to strengthen the exchange on this aspect and promote the disaster control ability and literature rescue ability.

In the two-day seminar, the three IFLA-PAC centers had an exchange on the impact of natural elements on document preservation. Eight scholars from different institutions made speeches respectively in the seminar, and other attendees submitted papers to the seminar. The seminar mainly discussed how to deal with the disasters caused by water, air pollution, earthquake, tsunami, and so on, with a special focus on how to establish management system, disaster prevention, and rescue programmes after disaster.

The seminar specially invited Zhang Xin, Deputy Director of Sichuan Archives to give a report titled "Document Rescue after the Wenchuan Earthquake."

After the seminar, the attendees visited the National Ancient Books Exhibition, which was sponsored by the NLC, and the newlybuilt National Ancient Books Restoration Laboratory.

# THE RESILIENCE OF LIBRARIES IN A DISASTER:

## THE EXPERIENCE OF THE CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE OF SEPTEMBER 2010

**Mr. Winston Roberts**

Principal Advisor, Strategy & International, Strategy, Policy & Communications Directorate, National Library of New Zealand  
Member, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia-Oceania

The impact of September's major earthquake on New Zealand's Canterbury region demonstrated the relative resilience of distributed and interconnected library systems.

The 7.1-magnitude earthquake was centred just outside Christchurch, New Zealand's second largest city, and caused widespread damage throughout the city and outlying areas. Although no lives were lost, the damage to infrastructure and the economy is estimated at up to NZ \$4 billion.

New Zealand's National Librarian, Penny Carnaby, was in Christchurch at the time:

"In the hours following the quake there was genuine relief and acts of extraordinary kindness as people checked on their families, friends and neighbours. (...) From my perspective it was incredible to see just how quickly the support services kicked in from the public sector and hundreds of volunteers. (...) ... the strong after-shocks caused more damage and tiredness, fear and strain started to show. So many people have lost their homes and this is life-altering for them."

Most library buildings did not appear to have suffered significant structural damage: the damage was mainly confined to office areas and book stacks, many of which buckled or fell, throwing the collections to the floor.

Reports from library managers working in a range of library sectors (public, tertiary education, special libraries, schools, prison libraries, etc) indicate that, with a few major exceptions, library services were restored at some level within one to two weeks of the earthquake.

### RESPONSES ACROSS THE WIDER LIBRARY SECTOR

The National Library maintained online services to public libraries nationally on the Aotearoa Peoples Network/ Kaharoa almost without interruption, thanks to staff working from home. Staff of the National Library's Services to Schools also maintained services in the same way.

Within a fortnight of the earthquake, the majority of the nineteen Christchurch City Libraries branches were open and all are now functioning, though some branch libraries have restricted services. Collections housed at the Linwood Store were relatively unscathed, though twisted shelving again posed a problem, with bracing needed before stock could be re-housed.

The degree of damage and disruption to the numerous public libraries in the rural area outside Christchurch varied greatly. Darfield public library, which was close to

the epicentre, was able to open again within a matter of days. Elsewhere, the public library in the town of Kaiapoi suffered significant structural damage and remained closed. The Christchurch mobile library was used extensively to provide replacement services where branches were closed for repair, and it was lent to Kaiapoi to replace its library.

Re-shelving books has been the major problem reported from most of the area's tertiary education libraries. The University of Otago's Canterbury Medical Library re-opened to staff and students one week after the earthquake, however it took them a further month to complete the task of re-shelving all the library material.

Extra bracing at Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology meant its collections did not suffer a similar fate. A report notes: "Some books fell to the floor, but thanks to earthquake strengthening and bracing on the shelves, this was not a major problem. (...) The shelves on level 2 of the Library have earthquake bracing across the top of the shelves. On the ground floor the shelves are bolted to the concrete floor."

More serious damage to the University of Canterbury's Central Library building will keep it closed until the first semester 2011, however this is being mitigated by the provision of replacement service points and services – both conventional and digital – elsewhere on the main campus.

### KEY ISSUES

This was a major seismic event, followed by thousands of recorded aftershocks (some of them also quite large). The effect on the whole community has been significant, in terms of emotional trauma and in terms of damage to architectural heritage (as not all older buildings were reinforced).

Fortunately there were no deaths: New Zealanders tend to live and work in relatively low buildings, many of which are made of wood. Modern public buildings meet strict seismic protection standards. Also, the timing of the main earthquake (at 4.30am on a Saturday) meant that there was little traffic in the streets. That timing also means there is no firm evidence about current library buildings as safe spaces for staff and customers. However, it is clear that the collapse of book stacks in some buildings means that the potential for serious injury was there.

### CONCLUSIONS

With some exceptions, library buildings escaped structural damage: the damage was mainly confined to office areas

and book stacks. In most cases, library services were restored at some level within a few days of the earthquake.

Many library managers and other authorities have noted that one of the biggest tasks has been the labour-intensive re-shelving of thousands of books and journals. This experience has raised questions around the design and construction of stacking and shelving systems, particularly with respect to the height of shelf units, loading, bracing, and stock restraint systems.

Two major factors in the restoration of services were the personal commitment and professionalism of staff, and the effective operation of existing collaborative arrangements among libraries, particularly in the university and public library sectors.

Telecommunications facilities in the region were quite resilient, and libraries were able to maintain web-based services (or restore them quickly) while buildings were closed.

Despite the massive nature of the natural disaster and its impact on the lives of all who experienced it, it could be said that the Canterbury earthquake has shown that distributed and interconnected library systems, by their nature, are relatively resilient.

More photos are available at the following links:

A selection of photos taken by Ross Becker in Christchurch during the week following the quake: [http://bit.ly/Ross\\_CEQ](http://bit.ly/Ross_CEQ)

The aftermath of the earthquake on Canterbury University Library and the campus: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/photos.shtml>

Photos of Canterbury Medical Library: <http://www.library.otago.ac.nz/tools/what.html#sept>



Inside Canterbury University Library

## ICDL 2010

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DIGITAL LIBRARIES ON SHAPING THE INFORMATION PARADIGM HELD IN NEW DELHI, INDIA

#### Mr. Sanjay K Bihani

Attache (Press & Information/ Library), High Commission of India, London  
Member, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania

The Third International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICDL 2010), jointly hosted by The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI) and Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), was inaugurated by Kapil Sibal, Minister for Human Resource Development of Government of India and Chief Guest of the Conference at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on February 23, 2010.



Inauguration Session of ICDL 2010

ICDL 2010 was spread over four days from February 23–26, 2010. Day 1 was devoted to tutorials which were conducted at IGNOU Convention Centre, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi.

The three-day conference started with a keynote address in the plenary session on February 24, 2010 by Dr. P. Anandan, Managing Director, Microsoft Research India on “Looking beyond movies: digital videos as an information source.” There was a poster and product presentation between lunch and technical sessions. The day ended with a cultural programme and conference dinner in the evening.

The second day started with a keynote address by Mr. Jens Thorhague, Director General of Danish Agency for Libraries and Media. He spoke on “Digital Libraries for all: A discussion for strategic development.” There were two technical sessions before lunch. The post-lunch session started with a product presentation, the 2nd Poster Session, and a visit to exhibitions. This was followed by a Panel Discussion on “Digital Library Security.” A cultural programme of the Kathak Dance and folk dances of North India brought the day to a close.

The third and last day commenced with a keynote address by Dr. R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Adviser of Government of India on “Digital Libraries-e learning and National Knowledge Network.” There were two technical sessions conducted before lunch, followed by another panel discussion on “Digital Library



Participants at a session during ICDL 2010

Policy and Standards.” Following the panel discussion, the Valedictory Session started with the presentation of the conference report by Rajesh K. Bhardwaj, Librarian, TERI. The conference was attended by nearly 700 delegates from 32 countries. It had 9 tutorial sessions, 3 plenary sessions, 29 invited talks, 31 technical sessions, 210 contributed papers, and 2 panel discussions. To encourage and recognise individual contributions, three best papers were awarded under Indian, Asian, and

International Category respectively. Awards were also given to the three best poster presenters. In his valedictory Address, Mr. Jawhar Sircar, Secretary, Ministry of Culture of Government of India emphasised the importance of libraries. There was a special address by Mr. Armoogum Parsuramen, Director and Representative of UNESCO, New Delhi. Another special address was given by Prof. Arcot Rajasekar from School of Library and Information Science, University of North Carolina, USA. At the end, a vote of thanks was given by the organising secretaries of the conference.

The detailed report on this conference has been published in IFLA Journal Volume 36 No. 2 (June 2010) and is also available at: [http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/publications/ifla-journal/ifla-journal-36-2\\_2010.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/publications/ifla-journal/ifla-journal-36-2_2010.pdf)

**Sanjay K Bihani presently works in the High Commission of India in London, United Kingdom. He is a Standing Committee member of IFLA Asia and Oceania, Government Libraries, and Copyright & Legal Matters. He is also part of the IFLA Journal Editorial Committee. He may be contacted at [sanjaykbihani@gmail.com](mailto:sanjaykbihani@gmail.com).**

## REPORT ON REGIONAL FEDERATION OF SOUTH ASIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS (REFSALA) – COUNCIL MEETING II

### FROM THE CLOUDS OF MOUNT EVEREST TO THE SURGING MONSOON WAVES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN

**Professor Russell Bowden**  
Honorary Advisor to REFSALA

The Regional Federation of South Asian Library Associations (REFSALA) had been founded in Nagarkot, Nepal in September 2004 on a mountain top overlooked by Mt Everest (if it could have seen REFSALA through the un-obliging and solid banks of enveloping clouds). This, its second Council meeting, was held overlooking the sun-lit pounding breakers of a monsoon-driven Indian Ocean in Colombo on October 6, 2010. Its primary purpose was to re-invigorate a relatively newly born regional organisation of library associations.

Attendance was impressive – boding well for REFSALA's future honoured with the presence of Ms. Ellen Tise, IFLA President paying the very first visit of an IFLA President to Sri Lanka. Also in attendance were the Presidents (or representatives) of the library associations of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries of Bangladesh (Dr. Nazim Uddin), India (Dr. Dharam Veer Singh), Maldives (Ms. Aishath Shabana), Nepal (Prakash Thapa), Pakistan (Prof. Malahat Sherwani), Sri Lanka (Mr. Upali Amarasiri and Mr. Anton Nallathamby), and a founder-member of REFSALA (Prof. Russell Bowden) with only a representative from Bhutan unable to be present. (It currently has not established a library association like Afghanistan which also is not yet a member of REFSALA.)

Welcoming the participants to what she believed was an extremely important meeting, Ellen stressed the important role played by other regional forums of library associations around the world hoping that REFSALA too would follow these examples and play a similar dual role by firstly working as an umbrella organisation, initiating regional projects, engaging in advocacy work, getting the attention of UNESCO, IFLA and other international and regional fora by establishing itself as a vibrant and active organisation and winning the confidence of SAARC and political authorities in the region through professional and inspired leadership. She said that she would also like to see it encourage sub-sectors to initiate their own works, for instance by forming regional alliances amongst LIS educational institutions, national, parliamentary, research and special libraries, and similar special interest groups in which REFSALA could act as a guide and mentor. Ellen summarised by emphasising the number of avenues available for such initiatives and the huge possibilities open to REFSALA at regional and international levels.

She then sought nominations for an Interim Chairman. Prof. Russell Bowden's name was proposed and seconded as one of the “Founding Fathers” of REFSALA way back in 2003 and 2004. On taking the Chair he outlined the significant tasks left over from the Nagarkot



*The Council meeting on October 6:*

*Sitting (left to right): Russell Bowden (Hon Adviser), Prakash Thapa (Nepal LA President), Ellen Tise (IFLA President), Upali Amarasiri (Sri Lanka LA President), Malahat Sherwani (Pakistan LA President).*

*Standing (left to right): Nazim Uddin (Council Bangladesh LA), Aishath Shabana (Maldives LA President), Anton Nallathamby (Sri Lanka LA), Dharam Veer Singh (Indian LA President).*

inauguration that required to be undertaken in this Colombo meeting – the first of which was to nominate and vote on the selection of a country to host REFSALA (as its Constitution required) given that Nepal's occupancy had ended. Sri Lanka was nominated and Russell called on Mr. Upali Amarasiri, President of the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA), to take the Chair.

Business conducted under his able chairmanship was to agree to a roster of future countries to host REFSALA and consequently the library associations and their presidents as REFSALA's President – until 2025 given the difficulties associated with finances, geography and politics that might in the future endanger meetings at which handovers (as had just happened) should take place. Each would serve for a maximum period of three years. Other business conducted on which agreement was reached were future relations with SAARC and with IFLA and particularly its Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO). Membership subscriptions established in 2004 by the Council I meeting in Nagarkot were noted, the need to open bank accounts as the secretaryship and Presidency moved from country to country and urgency to establish a website were agreed.

Although only two hours had been allocated for this significant meeting, in the two days of the Professional Programme being held to celebrate the 50th Anniversary Golden Jubilee of the establishment of SLLA, much work was accomplished in a friendly and cooperative atmosphere. Ellen offered the support of IFLA to get this new regional body well-established. Russell Bowden also was unanimously elected Honorary Advisor to REFSALA to assist its Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer who would soon be appointed by the SLLA's Council in accordance with the Constitution.

Given the uneven states of libraries and information services' developments in the region and even within member-countries there is much that REFSALA will be able to do in the future to assist in redressing these. Ideas included sharing training and education activities, improvements to bibliographical services, extended inter-library cooperation, improvements to the management of the library associations and many more.

The meeting concluded after the customary photograph with plans to meet again for REFSALA Council Meeting III in either India or Pakistan in the first half of 2011.

# SRI LANKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION GOLDEN JUBILEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY

OCTOBER 7–8, 2010  
CEYLON CONTINENTAL HOTEL

**Professor Russell Bowden**  
Convener, International Conference Task Force

This report, in two parts, reflects the composition of the Golden Jubilee International Conference – coverage of the Inauguration on October 6, 2010 with an invited audience of Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) members and its guests and a report (the second part) on the two-day Professional Programme in which more than 130 SLLA members paid to participate.

### INAUGURATION

The Inauguration was graced by the presence of the Honourable D.M. Jayaratne, the Prime Minister; Honourable John Seneviratne, Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs; and Ms. Ellen Tise, IFLA President – the first time that an IFLA President visited Sri Lanka.

After the customary procession with Kandyan dancers, the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, and the playing of the National Anthem, Mr. Upali Amarasiri, SLLA President, welcomed the Chief, distinguished guests, and the presidents of library associations from South Asian countries – Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Pakistan who were also representing (along with Sri Lanka) the relatively newly-founded organisation, Regional Federation of South Asian Library Associations (REFSALA). Thereafter SLLA's 50th Anniversary "Charter for the Future" was presented to the Prime Minister with the Association's expressed intention to support the Government's initiatives and programmes with library and information management activities in the hope and expectation that the Government would in turn provide support for SLLA's future activities. After addresses by the Prime Minister, Ellen presented a plaque from IFLA to the SLLA President to commemorate this Jubilee event. She also presented awards to SLLA members who had served on the Council of the Ceylon Library Association in its early formative years, SLLA past Presidents, a non-Lankan SLLA member in recognition of the outstanding contribution made to the LIS profession in Sri Lanka, and other members recognised for their outstanding contribution. The Prime Minister presented the IFLA President with a beautifully worked silver model of a Lankan elephant, bringing the International Conference's Inauguration to a close.



Front Row (left to right):

Mrs. Swarna Jayathilake (Info & Public Rel); Mrs. DID Andradi (Pres Elect); Prof. Jayasiri Lankage (Past Pres); J Rathnayake (Vice-Pres); Ms. Ellen Tise (President IFLA); Mr. Upali Amarasiri (President); Ms. Pushpamala Perera (Gen Secretary); Prof. Russell Bowden (Council Member); GR Padmasiri (Educ Officer); Mrs. Daya Ratnayake (Past Pres) with other members of SLLA Council.

### PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMME

The Professional Programme was graced by Ellen, IFLA President and representatives and presidents of library associations of six of the seven South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries that meet as REFSALA. This Programme consisted of twelve sessions with a theme paper accompanied by two supporting papers. Each session is chaired by an eminent librarian. The visitors included Prof. Malahat Sherwani (President, Pakistan LA), Dr. Dharam Veer Singh (President, Indian LA), Ms. Aishath Shabana (President, Maldives LA), Mr. Prakash Thapa (President, Nepal LA), and Dr. Nazim Uddin (Council Member, Bangladesh Association of Librarians, Information Scientists and Documentalists), all of whom also made presentations. The Opening Session introduced the theme of the entire Conference: "Libraries: Access to Information and Empowering People" chaired by Mr. Upali Amarasiri. Ellen also presented on "Libraries Driving Access to Knowledge," her IFLA Presidential theme.

The programmes and themes had been carefully selected to provide opportunities for SLLA members to celebrate this Jubilee by themselves participating and making presentations alongside Presidents of REFSALA, members of library associations, and eminent Sri Lankan scholars. The plan seemed to work: attendance was 109 on the first day and 94 on the second. Presentation standards, as with any conference, were a "curate's egg – good in parts," in that there were some of excellent and scholarly standards that should prove to be seminal. What mattered was that librarians from all parts of Sri Lanka and others, with South Asian colleagues were able to network to share knowledge and debate and discuss subjects in a professional and scholarly manner. The professional programme had proved to be a historical landmark in the development of SLLA.

The Conference drew to a close on October 9, concluding a series of memorable occasions such as the Inauguration, the Professional Programme, the second Council meeting of REFSALA, and a full social programme with visits to significant places. This will go down in the annals of the Association's history.



*Theatre staging by school students*

## LIBRARIANS CONTRIBUTE TO THE “YEAR OF GERMANY IN KAZAKHSTAN”

### **Mrs. Tendik G. Yermekpayeva**

Head, World Literature Sector, National Academic Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan  
Member, IFLA Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania

2010 is the “Year of Germany in Kazakhstan.” It showcases development of intensive contacts in political, economic, and cultural spheres. People of Kazakhstan are well acquainted with the rich culture and creative heritage of Germany. Diverse forums, conferences, seminars, and meetings are held in spheres of economics, education, culture, and environment.

For the National Academic Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan (NABRK), the “Year of Germany in Kazakhstan” started with the donation of books published in Germany. The Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Federal Republic of Germany granted books to NABRK. Among the books, there were books of N.A. Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, “In the Heart of Eurasia,” “The Kazakhstan Way,” and “Epicenter of Peace” in German. There were also books in German language of outstanding Kazakhstan poets and writers such as Abai, M. Auezov, T. Akhtanov, A. Nurpeisov, A. Kekilbayev, O. Suleimenov, and G. Belger.

Our readers had unforgettable meetings with German writers Terezia Mora and Anja Tuckermann. Both are writers of long-standing reputation and literary laureates. Their books are translated to many languages. The authors met readers in reading sessions. Terezia Mora met with an adult audience, and Anja Tuckermann had a session with school children. Listeners accepted author’s reading with great interest, asked questions and expressed their points of view showing good knowledge of German language. At the meeting with Terezia Mora, there were

a lot of questions about her sensational novel “Alle Tage” which speaks of tragedy and beauty. At the session with Anja Tuckermann, readers were interested if the books reflected her personal life experience. Both sessions were reported in mass media as considerable events in the network of the “Year of Germany” in Kazakhstan. These sessions were organised by NABRK in partnership with Goethe Institute Almaty.

NABRK became a place of theatre staging on Erich Kastner, one of the best known German writers of the twentieth century. Erich Kastner achieved international success with his children’s books that were widely published around the world. One of those books, “Flying Class Room,” became the topic of musical-artistic interpretation by Astana students of the 5th, 7th, and 8th grades of German gymnasium #46, under the direction of Julia Koll from Scholar of Robert Bosh Foundation. The audience, comprising students from Astana schools studying the German language, liked the performance very much.

NABRK librarians put in considerable preparatory work for readers to learn more about German political, economic, and cultural issues through events such as meeting with Jens Bopp, the First Secretary of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Republic of Kazakhstan, quizzes such as “Do you know Germany?”, literary salons, and exhibitions of books of young German writers.

Collated by Ms. Nor Aishah M. Rashid  
Associate Librarian, Government & Business Information Services  
National Library Board Singapore

## JANUARY

### ALA 2011 Midwinter Meeting

- ORGANISER American Library Association (ALA)
- DATE 7–11 January 2011
- VENUE San Diego, California, USA
- LINK <http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/index.cfm>

### SLA Leadership Summit

- ORGANISER Special Libraries Association (SLA)
- DATE 19–22 January 2011
- VENUE Washington, DC, USA
- CONTACT SLA Leadership Summit Registration  
P.O. Box 75338  
Baltimore, MD 21275, USA  
Fax: +1 703 647 4901
- LINK <http://www.sla.org/content/resources/leadcenter/LeadershipSummit/11leadsummit/about.cfm>

### 43rd Cairo International Book Fair

- ORGANISER General Egyptian Book Organization
- DATE 26 January– 6 February 2011
- VENUE Cairo, Egypt
- LINK [http://www.cairobookfair.org/default\\_en.aspx](http://www.cairobookfair.org/default_en.aspx)

## FEBRUARY

### ALIA Information Online 2011

- ORGANISER Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)
- DATE 1–3 February 2011
- VENUE Sydney, Australia
- CONTACT Conference CoConvenor  
Kay Harris  
Email: [kay.harris@information-online.com.au](mailto:kay.harris@information-online.com.au)
- LINK <http://www.information-online.com.au/>

### 2nd International Conference of Asian Special Libraries: “Building User Trust: The Key to Special Libraries Renaissance at the Digital Era”

- ORGANISER Special Libraries Association – Asian Chapter
- DATE 10–12 February 2011
- VENUE Tokyo, Japan
- CONTACT Conference Secretariat  
Ms. Kyoko Sato  
Organizing Secretary, ICoASL 2011  
President  
Asian Chapter, SLA  
Kokos Consulting  
Ohkura 4-2-20-501  
Setagaya-ku, Tokyo, 157-00  
Japan  
Email: [asiansla@plala.to](mailto:asiansla@plala.to)  
<http://units.sla.org/chapter/cas/ICoASI-2011.htm>
- LINK

### International Conference on Digital Libraries and Knowledge Organization (ICDK 2011)

- ORGANISER Management Development Institute (MDI) and Indian Association for Special Libraries and Information Centres (IASLIC)
- DATE 14–16 February 2011
- VENUE Guragon, Haryana, India
- CONTACT Dr. Antony Jose  
Convener – ICDK 2011  
Management Development Institute  
Mehrauli Road, Sukhrali  
Gurgaon – 122 007, INDIA  
Tel: +91 124 4560324  
Email: [ajose.mdi@gmail.com](mailto:ajose.mdi@gmail.com)  
<http://www.mdi.ac.in/ICDK/Home.html>
- LINK

## MARCH

### 8th International CALIBER Conference: “Towards Building a Knowledge Society: Library as Catalyst for Knowledge Discovery and Management”

- ORGANISER Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET)
- DATE 2–4 March 2011
- VENUE Goa, India
- CONTACT Email: [caliber2011@inflibnet.ac.in](mailto:caliber2011@inflibnet.ac.in)  
<http://www.inflibnet.ac.in/caliber2011/>
- LINK

# LIBRARY EVENTS FROM JANUARY TO AUGUST 2011

## International Information Conference on Search, Data Mining and Visualization (II-SDV)

- ORGANISER Infonortics, Ltd.
- DATE 14–15 March 2011
- VENUE Singapore
- LINK <http://www.infonortics.com/sdv-11.html>

- CONTACT IFLA Headquarters  
P.O. Box 95312  
2509 CH The Hague  
Netherlands  
Tel: +31 70 3140884  
Fax: +31 70 3834827  
Email: [ifla@ifla.org](mailto:ifla@ifla.org)
- LINK <http://www.ifla.org/en/news/2nd-ifla-presidential-conference>

## Online Information Asia-Pacific 2011

- ORGANISER Incisive Media
- DATE 23–24 March 2011
- VENUE Hong Kong, China
- LINK <http://2009.online-information.co.uk/online09/onlineasia.html>

## IFLA International Newspaper Conference

- ORGANISER National Library of Malaysia and International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
- DATE 25–27 April 2011
- VENUE Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- CONTACT Madam Chin Loy Jyoon  
Secretary  
IFLA International Newspaper Conference 2010  
National Library of Malaysia  
232, Jalan Tun Razak, 50572 Kuala Lumpur  
Tel: +60 3 26871764  
Fax: +60 3 26927502  
Email: [chin\\_lj@pnm.my](mailto:chin_lj@pnm.my)
- LINK <http://www.pnm.gov.my/IFLA/>

## 8th Bangkok International Book Fair

- ORGANISER Publishers and Booksellers Association of Thailand (PUBAT)
- DATE 25 March–6 April 2011
- VENUE Bangkok, Thailand
- LINK <http://www.bangkokibf.com/>

## World Book Summit

- ORGANISER UNESCO, International Publishers' Association (IPA), Federation of European Publishers (FEP), International Booksellers Federation (IBF) and International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)
- DATE 31 March–1 April 2011
- VENUE Ljubljana, Slovenia
- CONTACT Secretariat  
Cankarjev dom, Cultural and Congress Centre  
Prešernova 10  
SI-1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia  
Tel: +386 1 241 71 133  
Fax: +386 1 241 72 96
- LINK <http://www.wbs2011.si/home>

## ATHAR Programme – Regional Course on Conservation of Organic Materials in Heritage Sites and Collections

- ORGANISER International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)
- DATE 26 April–16 May 2011
- VENUE Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
- CONTACT Email: [athar@iccrom.org](mailto:athar@iccrom.org)
- LINK [http://www.iccrom.org/eng/01train\\_en/announce\\_en/2011\\_04AtharUAE\\_en.shtml](http://www.iccrom.org/eng/01train_en/announce_en/2011_04AtharUAE_en.shtml)

# APRIL

## 2nd IFLA Presidential Conference: Access to Knowledge: Human Rights and Libraries

- ORGANISER International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
- DATE 14–15 April 2011
- VENUE The Hague, Netherlands

# MAY

## European Council of International Schools (ECIS) Librarians Conference

- ORGANISER European Council of International Schools (ECIS) Librarians Committee
- DATE 12–15 May 2011
- VENUE Istanbul, Turkey
- CONTACT Email: [ECIST@read2live.com](mailto:ECIST@read2live.com)
- LINK [http://ecist.read2live.com/ECIS\\_Istanbul/Welcome.html](http://ecist.read2live.com/ECIS_Istanbul/Welcome.html)

## Singapore Book Fair 2011

- ORGANISER Marshall Cavendish Business Information Pte Ltd/ Singapore Press Holdings
- DATE 27 May–5 June 2011
- VENUE Singapore
- CONTACT Ms Christine Ng  
Marshall Cavendish Business Information Pte Ltd  
1 New Industrial Road  
Times Centre  
Singapore 536196  
Tel: 65 6213 9428  
Fax: 65 6285 0161  
Email: sbf@tpl.com.sg
- LINK [http://expopromoter.com/Redirect/lang/en/event\\_id/106052/](http://expopromoter.com/Redirect/lang/en/event_id/106052/)

## Third International m-Libraries Conference

- ORGANISER Open University
- DATE 11–13 May 2011
- VENUE Brisbane, Australia
- CONTACT Email: [m-libraries-conference@open.ac.uk](mailto:m-libraries-conference@open.ac.uk)
- LINK <http://www.usq.edu.au/m-libraries>

# JUNE

## 17th Seoul International Book Fair

- ORGANISER Korean Publishers Association
- DATE 15–19 June 2011
- VENUE Seoul, Korea
- LINK <http://www.sibf.or.kr/>

## Asia-Pacific Conference on Library & Information Education and Practice: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities

- ORGANISER Faculty of Information Management, Universiti Teknologi MARA
- DATE 22–24 June 2011
- VENUE Pullman Putrajaya Lakeside, Putrajaya, Malaysia
- CONTACT <http://fim.uitm.edu.my/a-liep2011/index.php/contact-us>
- LINK <http://fim.uitm.edu.my/a-liep2011/>

# JULY

## 18th Tokyo International Book Fair

- ORGANISER Reed Exhibitions Japan Ltd.
- DATE 7–10 July 2011
- VENUE Tokyo, Japan
- LINK <http://www.bookfair.jp/en/>

## 3rd International Conference on Networked Digital Technologies (NDT 2011)

- ORGANISER Digital Information Research Foundation (DIRF)
- DATE 11–13 July 2011
- VENUE Macau, China
- CONTACT Email: [ndt@dirf.org](mailto:ndt@dirf.org)
- LINK <http://www.dirf.org/ndt/index.asp>

## 22nd Hong Kong Book Fair

- ORGANISER Hong Kong Trade Development Council
- DATE 20–26 July 2011
- VENUE Hong Kong, China
- LINK <http://www.hkbookfair.com/en/index.aspx>

# AUGUST

## 77th IFLA General Conference and Assembly: "Libraries Beyond Libraries: Integration, Innovation and Information for All"

- ORGANISER International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
- DATE 13–18 August 2011
- VENUE San Juan, Puerto Rico
- CONTACT Email: [ifla2011reg@congrex.com](mailto:ifla2011reg@congrex.com)
- LINK <http://www.ifla.org/en/ifla77>

## 18th Beijing International Book Fair (BIBF)

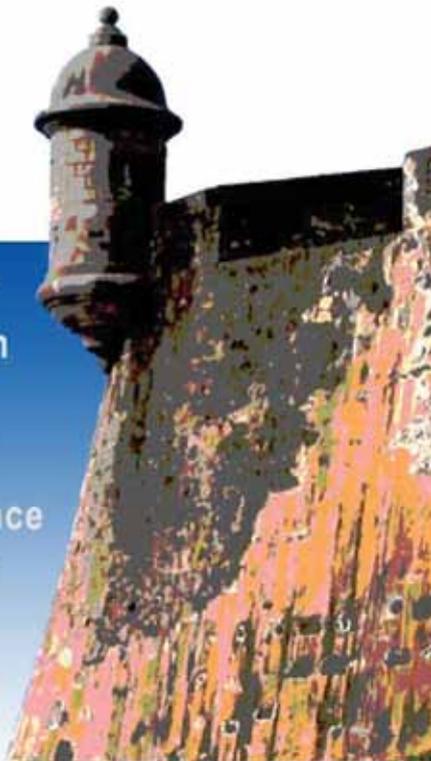
- ORGANISER China National Publications Import & Export Corp.
- DATE 31 August–4 September 2011
- VENUE Beijing, China
- LINK <http://www.bibf.net/WebSiteEn/home/Default.aspx>

# IFLA 2011

PUERTO RICO  
13-18 August, San Juan



World Library  
and Information  
Congress:  
77th IFLA  
General Conference  
and Assembly



## CONGRESS THEME:

Libraries beyond libraries:  
Integration, Innovation and  
Information for all

For more details, please refer to:  
<http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77>



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